

Listing of and Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims below replaces, without prejudice, all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A closure for a container, comprising:
 - a) a top having an outer pressing surface and an inner sealing area,
 - b) a side skirt extending downwardly from said outer pressing surface,
 - c) a tamper-evident ring attached to said side skirt and detachable therefrom when said closure is first removed from said container,
 - d) a circumferential plug seal provided on said inner sealing area and adapted to sealingly engage an inner wall surface of a neck of the container, and
 - e) ④ a plurality of downwardly extending engaging members provided on said inner sealing area spaced radially inward and apart from the side skirt and spaced radially outward and apart from the plug seal and having camming surfaces formed by oppositely-sloped edges and adapted to engage corresponding camming surfaces of at least one upwardly-extending tooth provided on the inner wall surface of the neck of said container and align said closure relative to said container neck during attachment of said closure to said container,
 - f) ⑤ e) wherein after said tamper-evident ring has been detached from said side skirt, said closure is sealingly attachable to said container solely by pressing downwardly on said outer pressing surface and is removable from said container by rotating said closure in either the clockwise or counterclockwise directions and lifting said closure from said container.
2. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 1, wherein prior to detachment from said side skirt, said tamper-evident ring is spaced from said side skirt by a plurality of posts.
3. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 2, wherein said plurality of posts taper outwardly toward said side skirt.
4. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 3, wherein said plurality of posts further comprise weakened portions located adjacent said tamper-evident ring.
5. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 1, wherein said plurality of downwardly-extending engaging members further comprise a plurality of teeth circumferentially positioned

around said inner sealing area, each tooth further comprising oppositely-sloped edges joined at a point of inflection.

6. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 5, wherein said point of inflection is sharp.

7. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 5, wherein said point of inflection is rounded.

8. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 1, wherein a pair of adjacently-positioned downwardly-extending engaging members is adapted to engage an upwardly-extending engaging member provided on said container such that said upwardly-extending engaging member is seated between said pair of adjacently-positioned downwardly-extending engaging members during attachment of said closure to said container.

9. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 8, wherein said downwardly-extending and upwardly-extending engaging members are provided with complimentary cam surfaces such that rotation of said closure relative to container causes at least one downwardly-extending engaging member of said pair to ride up said upwardly-extending engaging member, resulting in the lifting of said closure from said container.

10. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 9, wherein said plurality of downwardly-extending engaging members is adapted to engage a plurality of upwardly-extending engaging member provided on said container.

11. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 1, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said side skirt.

12. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 11, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said outer pressing surface.

13. (Original) A closure in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a circumferential plug seal provided on said inner sealing area and adapted to engage an inner wall of said container.

14. (Currently amended) An assembly of a cap and a container, comprising:

a) a container having a neck formed from a single piece of material and with an inner wall surface and an outer wall surface and at least one upwardly-extending tooth having camming surfaces formed by oppositely-sloped edges joined at a point and formed integrally on the inner wall surface of the neck positioned thereon,

b) a cap comprising:

- i. a top with an outer pressing surface and an inner sealing area,
 - ii. a side skirt extending downwardly from said outer pressing surface and adapted to engage said outer wall surface of said container neck,
 - iii. a tamper-evident ring attached to said side skirt and detachable therefrom when said cap is first removed from said container,
 - iv. a circumferential plug seal provided on said inner sealing area and adapted to engage said inner wall surface of said container, the plug seal being sized and shaped to sealingly engage the inner surface of the container neck, and
 - v. a plurality of downwardly extending teeth circumferentially arranged around said inner sealing area spaced radially inward and apart from said side skirt and spaced radially outward and apart from the plug seal and provided on the top interior surface and having camming surfaces formed by oppositely-sloped edges and adapted to engage the camming surfaces of said at least one upwardly-extending tooth provided on said container for aligning said cap relative to said container during attachment of said cap to said container,
- c) wherein after said tamper-evident ring has been detached from said side skirt, said closure is sealingly attachable to said container solely by pressing downwardly on said outer pressing surface and is removable from said container by rotating said closure in either the clockwise or counterclockwise directions to bring said downwardly extending tooth camming surfaces into operative engagement with said upwardly extending tooth camming surfaces to lift and lifting said closure from said container.

15. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein prior to detachment from said side skirt, said tamper-evident ring is spaced from said side skirt by a plurality of posts.

16. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 15, wherein said plurality of posts taper outwardly toward said side skirt and further comprise weakened portions located adjacent said tamper-evident ring.

17. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein each tooth of said upwardly-extending and downwardly-extending engaging teeth further comprise oppositely-sloped edges joined at a point of inflection.

18. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 17, wherein said point of inflection is sharp.

19. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 17, wherein said point of inflection is rounded.

20. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 14, wherein said container further comprises a plurality of upwardly-extending teeth adapted to engage said plurality of downwardly-extending teeth provided on said cap.

21. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 14, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said side skirt.

22. (Original) An assembly in accordance with claim 14, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said outer pressing surface.

23. (New) An assembly of a cap and a container, comprising:

a container including:

a neck formed from a single piece of material and having an inner wall having first and second inner surfaces, the first and second inner surfaces defining different diameters of the neck, and an outer wall surface,

at least one upwardly-extending tooth having camming surfaces formed by oppositely-sloped edges joined at a point of inflection and formed integrally on the inner wall adjacent to the first inner surface of the neck, and

a cap including:

a top with an exterior surface and an interior surface,

a side skirt extending downwardly from an outer periphery of the top and adapted to engage said outer wall of said container neck,

a tamper-evident ring attached to said side skirt and detachable therefrom when said cap is first removed from said container,

a circumferential plug seal formed by a circumferential wall directly connected to the interior surface of the top, the seal forming a hollow cylinder extending downwardly from the top interior surface, the plug seal being sized and shaped to sealingly engage the second inner surface of the container neck, and

a plurality of downwardly extending teeth spaced radially inward and apart from said side skirt and spaced radially outward and apart from the plug seal and directly connected to the top interior surface and circumferentially arranged near the periphery of the top and having camming surfaces formed by oppositely-sloped edges joined at a point of inflection and adapted to engage the camming surfaces of said at least one upwardly-extending tooth provided on said inner wall of said container neck,

wherein said closure is sealingly attachable to said container by pressing downwardly on said exterior surface and is removable from said container by rotating said closure relative to the container in either the clockwise or counterclockwise directions to bring said downwardly extending tooth camming surfaces into operative engagement with said upwardly extending tooth camming surfaces to lift said closure from said container.

24. (New) An assembly in accordance with claim 23, wherein said inner wall of said container neck further comprises a plurality of upwardly-extending teeth adapted to engage said plurality of downwardly-extending teeth provided on said cap.

25. (New) An assembly in accordance with claim 23, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said side skirt.

26. (New) An assembly in accordance with claim 23, further comprising gripping ridges provided on said exterior surface.